

Delaware Land Restoration Workshop Share Your Story!









Workshop Goals

- Joining restoration partners across the State to discuss their Best Management Practices, landowner stories, funding sources, and program benefits.
- Providing opportunities to visit several restoration sites to view firsthand how projects are accomplished and impact water quality.
- Implementing and reviewing lessons learned through hands-on projects and discussions.

Please join us by sharing your land restoration stories and learning from others! Participation is important for working together!

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Agenda

The morning session features a driving tour of restoration projects throughout Kent County. Impacts and improvements to water quality will be presented. Participants will visit several restoration sites to view first-hand how the projects are accomplished and how they impact water quality.

The afternoon will be spent implementing and reviewing lessons learned through hands-on projects and discussions. The afternoon session will include presentations and discussions to highlight features and benefits of various restoration programs and to review principles of site restoration.

Field Visits - AM SESSION

Solberg Wetland/Stream Creation and Restoration Project
Stephens Property

Webber Farm Wetland Restoration Project

Pratt Farm Water Management / Wetland Creation

Afternoon Session

Activity—DSU Hickory Hill Farm

Adjourn

Solberg Wetland/Stream Creation and Restoration Project

This is a unique project as the entire tax ditch right-of-way has been eliminated and portions of the tax ditch maintenance access-way have been restored to wetlands. The project altered the previously straight, narrow ditch to a wider, pooled stretch of slow-moving stream.

To further add to the natural look, a water control structure was constructed to resemble a natural beaver dam. It should also be noted that the landowner purchased two additional acres of land along the tax ditch so that the project could be completed.

The project included the following:

- Elevating the ditch bottom
- Installing three water-control structures
- Creating a man-made beaver dam
- Creating two acres of floodplain wetlands adjacent to the original channel.

Restoration Partners

- DNREC Division of Watershed Stewardship (Formerly Soil and Water Conservation)
- Kent Conservation District
- Kent County Parks and Recreation
- Private Landowners Carl Solberg

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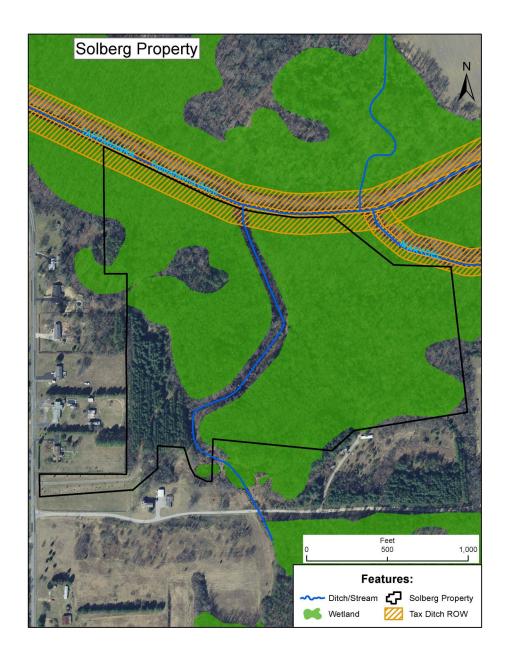
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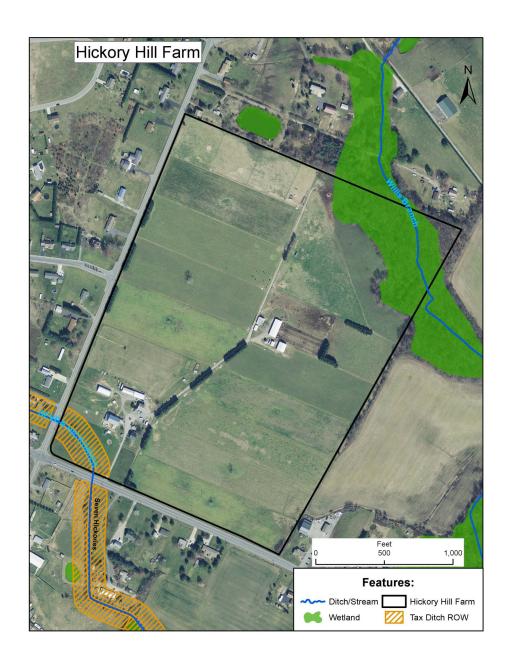
Stephens Property

Mark and Beth Stephens enrolled 163.5 acres of their woodland in the Wetland Reserve Program for a 30 Year easement in 2007. The easement was closed in September of 2010 and restoration construction commenced in July of 2011. The woodland was drained by lateral ditches and over land flow to the Harrington-Beaver Dam Tax Ditch and its prongs. Hydrology was restored with a combination of water control structures and berms where water emptied into the tax ditch.

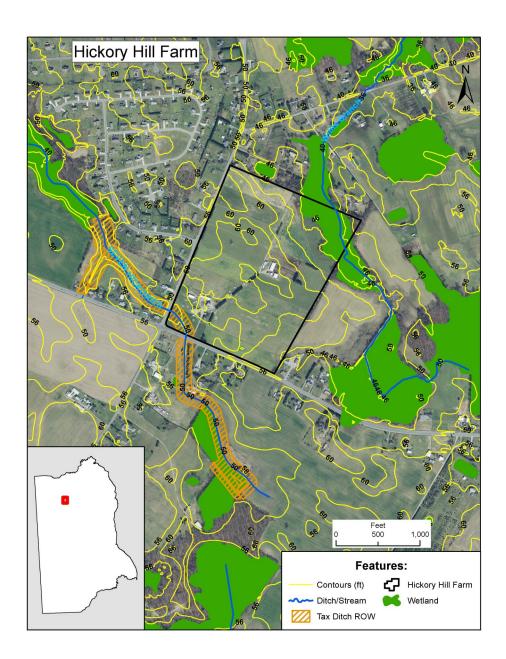
The restoration design was developed by NRCS in partnership with USFWS Chesapeake Bay Field Office and a portion of the restoration cost was paid for by the USFWS through the Delaware Bay Field Office. In July 2012 the Stephens decided to modify the easement duration and enrolled the site as a permanent easement. The site has been monitored each year since restoration construction was completed and an additional hydrology restoration practice is schedule for installation in the summer of 2014.



Afternoon Activity—DSU Hickory Hill Farm



Afternoon Activity—DSU Hickory Hill Farm



Stephens Property











After Construction

After Construction

Typical Installation and Recommended Component Items-

Water Control Structure Typical Section

Site 6



WRP is most suited for poorly drained agricultural lands,

where planned restoration will maximize habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife, and improve water quality.

Water Control Structure Installation



Typical Installation and Recommended Component ItemsWater Control Structure Typical Section
Diagram provided by Agridrain**



Webber Farm Wetland Restoration Project

The Webber Wetland Restoration Project (located southwest of Smyrna) was constructed to demonstrate methods to improve the water quality of surface water runoff from poultry production areas and adjacent agricultural fields. The plan involved constructing a wetland treatment system in an agricultural field approximately one acre in size. This project is a great example of how to improve water quality from agricultural runoff

The project included the following:

- 3 acres of wetland
- 4 water control structures
- Diversion tiles

Restoration Partners:

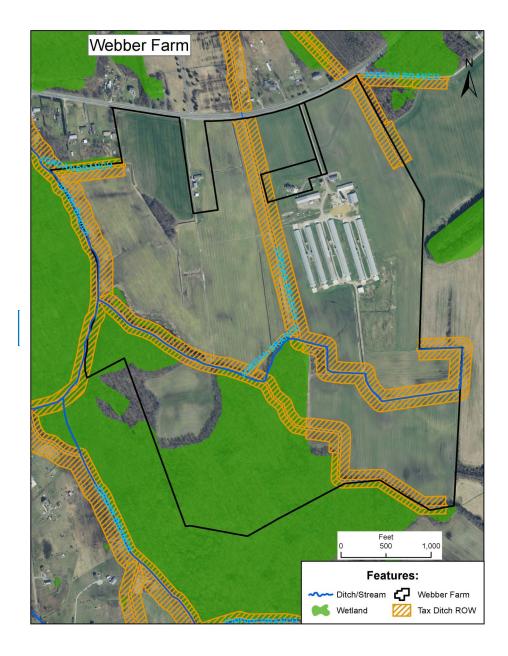
- DNREC, Division of Watershed Stewardship (Formerly Soil and Water Conservation)
- Drainage Section
- Non-Point Source (319 Program)
- Kent Conservation District
- Smyrna High School FFA
- Private Landowners Bill, Joyce, Matt and Bobbi Jo Webber

Notes/Sketch

Site Checklist

| Watershed: | Drainage Basin: | Date: 6 November 2013 |
|--|---|----------------------------|
| Leipsic River | Delaware Bay & Estuary | |
| GPS Coordinates: Latitude: 39.2 | 162 Longitude: -75.62 | 78 |
| Assessed by: | | |
| Site Description | | |
| Site Description | | |
| Name: Delaware State University, | Hickory Hill Farm | |
| Address: 2095 Seven Hickories Roc | ad, Dover, DE 19904 | |
| South of the intersection at Brenfo | rd Road and Route 42 (Seven Hicko | nries) |
| the intersection at Brenge. | ta noda ana nodee 12 (oeven meno | 1100). |
| Landowner Goals: | | |
| Landowner Goals. | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| Existing Site Conditions: | | |
| Front pasture = goat pasture with j | fescue field | |
| Back pasture = beef/goat pasture. | Fescue & Sorahum-Sudanarass mi | 'x |
| | resear a sorgham sadangrass mi | <u>^</u> |
| Proposed Activities | | |
| Re-establishment | ☐ Enhancement | |
| Rehabilitation [| Establishment | |
| | | |
| Description: | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| Soils: Front pasture = FgA - Fallsin Back pasture = FgA - Fallsin | ngton loam gton loam, LhA – Lenni silt loam, \ | NdA – Woodstown sandy loam |
| Evidence of poor infiltration (clays | , fines) ☐ Yes ☐ No | |
| Evidence of shallow bedrock | ☐ Yes ☐ No | |
| Evidence of high water table (gleyi | ng, saturation) Yes No | |
| Site Constraints | | |
| Potential Permitting Factors: | | |
| ☐ None ☐ Unknown | Yes Impacts to Wetlands | Possible |
| | Impacts to a Stream | |
| | Floodplain Fill | |
| Other Factors: | Impacts to Forests | |
| | | |
| Conflicts with Existing Land Uses/ | Utilities | |
| Sewer/Water/Gas C | Overhead Wires Structures | |
| ☐ Wetlands ☐ F | armed | |

Webber Farm Wetland Restoration Project



Pratt Farm Water Management / Wetland Creation



Pratt Farm Water Management / Wetland Creation

The Pratt Farm, a 250 acre grain farm with a range of well drained to poorly drained soils, is located approximately two miles west of Kenton Delaware. The drainage channels on the farm were constructed during the civilian conservation corps era and have deteriorated to the point of minimal function. This decrease in function resulted in poor drainage which caused the inability to plant efficiently and often prohibits harvesting.

The intent of the project was to use created wetlands to reduce the sediment and pollutant loads to waterways while providing increased habitat; alternate drainage construction techniques focusing on the ability to maintain and protect biological communities, habitat and water quality through shading and ditch bank buffers; and demonstrate how marginal agland can be converted/restored to wetlands while enhancing adjacent agricultural lands.

The project included the following:

- Reconstruction of approximately one mile of drainage channel
- Ten acres of wetland creation/restoration
- Fifteen acres of forested wetland enhancement

Restoration Partners:

- DNREC, Division of Watershed Stewardship (Formerly Soil and Water Conservation)
- · DNREC, Division of Fish and Wildlife
- Local Science Classes, FFA, and Little League
- Kent Conservation District
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
- National Marine Fisheries
- Private Landowners John W. Pratt, Brent and Brad Smith